

CLAIMS:

1. A discharge lamp comprising an outer bulb, which outer bulb is provided with a lamp cap at one end, said outer bulb accommodating:

- a discharge vessel provided with electrodes, and
- a first pole and a second pole at some distance from the first pole, which poles establish an electric connection between the lamp cap and the electrodes, at least a part of the second pole being mainly laterally positioned with respect to a discharge axis, said discharge axis forming the shortest connection between the electrodes, characterized in that the second pole is positioned unilaterally with respect to the discharge vessel, said second pole being shaped such that a magnetic field at the location of the discharge vessel is minimized.

2. A discharge vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the second pole is provided with a number of successive parts which are laterally positioned with respect to the discharge axis in the discharge vessel, which parts are spaced apart.

3. A discharge lamp as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the magnetic fields generated by the parts of the second pole are oriented in at least two directions.

4. A discharge lamp as claimed in claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the shortest distance between at least two parts and the discharge vessel is different.

5. A discharge vessel as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the parts of the second pole are positioned in such a manner with respect to each other that the following applies:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{n_i I}{d_i} \approx 0, \text{ with } (N \geq 2) \text{ where:}$$

n_i = the direction of the magnetic field generated,

N = the number of parts of the second pole that are laterally positioned with respect to the discharge axis of the discharge vessel,

I = the intensity of the current flowing through the discharge channel in the operating state,
and

5 di = the shortest distance between a certain part of the second pole and the discharge axis of the discharge vessel.

6. A discharge vessel as claimed in any one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that the discharge vessel is embodied so as to be hermetical-tight, the
10 discharge vessel accommodating at least one metallic element.

7. A discharge lamp as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the metallic
element forms part of a metal halide.

15 8. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized
in that the outer bulb is provided with a diffuse layer.

9. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized
in that the outer bulb is provided with a fluorescent layer.